**Ransom-Everglades**

**World Civilizations**

**Expository/Argumentative Essay rubric**

**Excellent papers**

THESIS: Clear, focused, meaningful, well-developed; answers the prompt and guides the essay

throughout

UNDERSTANDING: Demonstrates thorough understanding of complexity of topic

EVIDENCE: Supports thesis with frequent, specific, and relevant

evidence/examples/facts/proof

ANALYSIS: Effectively analyzes, interprets, argues, makes inferences of evidence to prove

thesis

ERRORS: May contain insignificant and infrequent historical or mechanical errors that do not hinder

arguments

ORGANIZATION: Essay is well-organized. Contains introduction with hook and proper context,

topic sentences, unity of paragraphs, conclusion, appropriate transitions/links

**Good papers**

THESIS: Has a thesis, perhaps superficial/simplistic, which addresses prompt

UNDERSTANDING: Demonstrates general understanding of the topic

EVIDENCE: Supports thesis with evidence/examples/proof, sometimes general or narrative in

description

ANALYSIS: Analyzes, interprets, makes inferences of evidence/examples/proof, generally argues,

often general or narrative

ERRORS: May contain minor historical or mechanical errors that do not interfere with

comprehension

ORGANIZATION: Essay contains most elements of organization

**Developing papers**

THESIS: Limited, confused, or poorly developed thesis which may simply restate the prompt or is

weakly organized

UNDERSTANDING: Demonstrates simplistic understanding of the topic

EVIDENCE: Contains limited evidence/examples/proof, which is usually general or narrative in

description

ANALYSIS: Contains limited or simple analysis, interpretation, inferences of evidence/ examples/

proof

ERRORS: May contain debilitating historical or mechanical errors

ORGANIZATION: Essay contains limited elements of organization

**Underdeveloped papers**

THESIS: No thesis or a thesis that does not address the topic

UNDERSTANDING: Demonstrates little or no understanding of the topic

EVIDENCE: Contains inappropriate/inaccurate or no evidence/examples/proof

ANALYSIS: Contains no analysis of evidence/examples/proof, or is inappropriate/inaccurate

ERRORS: May contain numerous errors; both major and minor

ORGANIZATION: Essay contains no organization nor structure

**Additional Comments Grade**